

The most recent oil slick forecast created Wednesday 4/28/10 at 1522 CDT for Friday 4/30/10 at 0600 CDT shows that the slick will make landfall in the area of the Pass a Loutre Wildlife Management Area and the Delta National Wildlife Refuge. These areas are located East of South Pass, northward to Main Pass in the Mississippi Delta. It is anticipated that the oil slick will be in the southern most reaches of the Chandeleur Islands and the marshes of Chandeleur Sound by Saturday 5/1/10 at 0600CDT. The forecasters at NOAA mention that the freshwater outflow from the Mississippi River may cause the oil to collect along convergence zones, and keep some of the oil offshore. This effect is not resolved in the current model. There could be shoreline impacts earlier than these predictions.

Based upon the most recent forecast I have prepared a brief overview of all CWPPRA projects in the Breton marshes, the Chandeleur Islands and Mississippi Delta. If the need arises, we can provide additional information on each project including the federal project sponsor, whether the project has been constructed, is in planning, or has been deauthorized.

There are several CWPPRA projects located within the birds-foot delta that may become impacted as the oil slick makes landfall. CWPPRA project MR-09 Delta Wide Crevasses (NMFS sponsored) is located between South Pass and Main Pass on areas including the Pass a Loutre State Wildlife Management Area and the Delta National Wildlife Refuge. North of Main Pass, there is MR-06 Channel Armor Gap Crevasse (USACE sponsored). In the western portion of the Delta from Venice south to the mouth of Southwest Pass, there are several additional CWPPRA projects that have been built or are being planned. MR-15 Venice Ponds Marsh Creation (EPA sponsored) is currently in the planning stages and is located near Venice Harbor. MR-10 Dustpan Maintenance Dredging Operation for Marsh Creation in the Mississippi River Demonstration (USACE sponsored) has been constructed.

Additional CWPPRA projects that have been constructed that may be impacted include:

- BS-11 Delta Management at Fort St. Phillip (USFWS sponsored)
- PO-19 MRGO Disposal Area Marsh Protection (USACE sponsored)
- PO-24 Hopedale Hydrologic restoration (NMFS sponsored; has water control structures)
- PO-27 Chandeleur Islands Marsh Restoration (NMFS sponsored)
- PO-30 Lake Borgne Shoreline Protection (EPA sponsored)